

community. The world's culture has been immeasurably enriched by Jewish writers, scientists, artists, philosophers, and medical pioneers. All those contributions, however, mattered little when the shadow of fascism fell across Europe, and European nations began to destroy some of their most valuable sons and daughters.

We may have thought that the horrors of World War Two and the Holocaust had finally cauterized the old festering sore of anti-Semitism. And indeed, for some years, that seemed to be the case. Europe committed itself to ensuring that never again would its states do violence against their Jewish minority, to which it owed so much. But time is a powerful sedative. Today, much of the same toxic nationalism is again on the rise. One of the most troubling aspects to me of the past two decades has been the reemergence of virulently nationalist and xenophobic political parties. These groups have often drawn on the iconography and ideology of Axis powers during the Nazi period, with some going so far as to hold public rallies and marches. Others resort to violence, both openly and in the shadows. These gangs are not acceptable within European political society—not yet—but their emergence is a sign that once again, all is not well on the continent. Economic turmoil has combined with age-old anti-Semitism to offer a tiny sliver of legitimacy to burgeoning neo-fascist parties. In some of the newly free states of Eastern Europe, social turmoil has often provided opportunistic politicians the chance of blaming national problems on an ancient scapegoat—the Jews.

But this problem is not limited to the East. In much of Europe, in the highest centers of learning and culture, a new phenomenon serves to buttress these old prejudices. The Middle East, where the world's only Jewish state faces a sea of hostile terrorists, is particularly ripe for anti-Semitic propagandists. The world today sees much anti-Semitism masquerading as criticism of Israel. August world bodies, dedicated to forging peace, have seen some of their instruments twisted almost beyond recognition. When great institutions cannot rouse themselves to end appalling human rights abuses in virtually every corner of the world, but instead focus again and again and again on a tiny nation, liberal and democratic, alone in a hostile region—then the instruments of those institutions may well be broken. Anti-Semitism is a scourge from which we are still not free, not so long as radical agitators and tacit bigotry alike have a vested interest in blaming the ills of many on the perceived sins of a few. Because too often, in Europe, the few are the Jews.

The active steps to combat anti-Semitism proposed yesterday by Professor Weisskirchen and Dr. Meyer could prove exceptionally useful in rolling back today's creeping advance of radicalism and anti-Semitism. Only

through vigorous and proactive measures can we identify the seedlings of hate and discrimination, and uproot them, and ensure that never again would Europe or the world fall prey to the ancient base ugliness of the mob.

RICHARD REID CONVICTION ANNIVERSARY

Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, most of the victories in the fight against terrorism have been won on foreign shores with little to no acclaim here at home. As our Nation continues the long and often silent campaign against extremism, we should not miss the opportunity to publicly praise the lifesaving achievements of our Nation's intelligence and law enforcement authorities.

On this day 5 years ago, al-Qaida operative Richard Colvin Reid, also called Abdul Raheem—but known to the world simply as the “shoe bomber”—was sentenced to life in prison. Reid sought to explode an airplane carrying 185 passengers and 12 crewmembers on their voyage across the Atlantic. Thanks to the vigilance and bravery of two flight attendants, Cristina Jones and Hermis Moutardier, Reid was discovered and detained, saving flight 63 and all on board.

The U.S. Attorney's Office in Massachusetts subsequently prosecuted Reid. His confession led to the first conviction of an al-Qaida terrorist on American soil. To commemorate the occasion, I met yesterday with the case's chief prosecutor, Middlesex County district attorney Gerry Leone. I took that opportunity to congratulate him on a successful conviction, one of the highlights of Gerry's long record of public service.

Like the terrorists of September 11, Reid pledged blind fealty to the hate-filled ideology of Osama bin Laden. In furtherance of his determined plot, Reid traveled to more than seven countries spanning three continents. Law enforcement authorities were able to use e-mails sent by Reid to obtain a vital glimpse into the complex global network of al-Qaida. These correspondences led authorities to discover al-Qaida-affiliated terrorist cells in London, France, and Turkey.

As we commemorate Reid's conviction and express our gratitude to those like Gerry Leone who made it happen, we must remember that future victories depend on private citizens, public servants, and law enforcement officers here and abroad working in unison to keep Americans safe against terrorism.

TRIBUTE TO SENATOR TRENT LOTT

Mr. SUNUNU. Mr. President, across America, those citizens who have on occasion chosen—or been required—to listen to congressional debate have often heard the Senate described as an “Institution.” It is a term which has

been overused and perhaps misused more than once, but I believe it is quite appropriately applied in observing that with Senator Trent Lott's departure, we have lost a reservoir of institutional knowledge, knowledge which has been of enormous value to Members of every political stripe for many years.

The breadth of Trent Lott's experience—on both sides of the aisle, in both Chambers of Congress, as back bench, and as a member of leadership—has given him an insight into and understanding of the legislative process unique among his peers. We have heard many colleagues describe the effect of that experience when combined with the persuasive personality of the Mississippi gulf coast: No one counted votes better, and perhaps more important, no one enjoyed it more.

Within our caucus, in committee rooms, and on the floor, Trent could rely time and again on the great friendships and professional respect developed through years of hard work. Even more valuable perhaps, he understood the unusual psychology, decisionmaking, and ego unique to Members of Congress. We all perceive the important role these factors play in our work; few have been able to master them to their use.

For Trent, however, counting votes was only the means to a more important end—being an effective Senator. He has long been a strong voice for the State of Mississippi, but he has also developed the habit of finding his way to the center of the legislative storm at the crucial moment when a final deal is struck.

On matters of policy, I have worked both alongside and against Trent—even coming out ahead once or twice. Those rare events have revealed him to accept loss gracefully, negotiate in good faith, and accept compromise without conceding principle. These are traits essential to integrity and stability in governance, but also traits that strengthened his hand for the next battle.

Thus, the experience, the ability, the “institutional knowledge” we lose is very real. I count Senator Lott as more than a valued colleague; he is also a valued friend. As a Senator, in my first term, I have always been able to count on Trent for sound and thoughtful advice, which always reflected his sincere concern for the personal well-being, career, and family of all with whom he served. I always took confidence from the fact that he unabashedly placed family at the top of his priorities, and understood that our public service should not take place at our families' expense.

Mr. President, although I am the youngest Member of the U.S. Senate, and still serving in my first term, I am grateful to Senator Lott for his commitment to keeping the Senate strong. The Framers of our Constitution saw the Senate as the legislative body that would maintain an even keel, engage in meaningful debate, and forge legislation through the art of compromise